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## The University of Dayton Awards Two Honorary Doctorates of Humanities

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DAYTON, Ohio, April 8, 1968 ---- Rabbi Selwyn Ruslander, spiritual leader of Temple Israel in Dayton, and Dr. Walter Reiling, a noted Dayton surgeon and community leader, will receive honorary doctor of humanities degrees from the University of Dayton this year.

Dr. Reiling, who has practiced in Dayton since 1936 and graduated from the University in 1930, will receive his honorary degree on April 21 during the 2:15 p.m. afternoon commencement exercises. His daughter, Barbara, will graduate at the same time with an Associate Degree in Business Administration, Specializing in Secretarial Studies. She will be the third child of Dr. and Mrs. Reiling who has graduated from UD. Their two sons, Walter Jr., '61, and Richard B., '63, are UD alumni. Both youthful doctors are now surgical residents at the Boston City Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts.

Their wives, Mrs. Walter Jr. (Suzanne Geyer, '60) and Mrs. Richard B. (Elizabeth Castellini, '63), also are graduates of the University of Dayton.

Rabbi Ruslander will not receive his honor until the August 3 commencement exercises because of a previous commitment on April 21.

Both Dr. Reiling and Rabbi Ruslander are receiving honorary degrees for "their long, continuous and unselfish service to the Dayton community and mankind in general."

In stating their recommendations the special committee for honorary degrees at the University of Dayton pointed to Dr. Reiling's long association with community, national and international groups who are dedicated to the betterment of mankind. The report concluded with: "Dr. Walter Reiling has brought to his family, his university and his community a full commitment to and a flowering of the ideals of Christian principles of thought and action."

An honors graduate from Harvard Medical School in 1933 and a resident in surgery at Boston's Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Dr. Reiling has practiced general surgery in Dayton since 1936, except for three years spent in the European Theater of Operations during World War II as Chief Surgeon for the 68th Station Hospital.

A member of the Dayton Optimist Club since 1936 he served as its president in 1942 and again in 1948. In 1951 he was elected Governor of the Ohio Optimist District and in 1953 he was elected President of Optimist International. During that year, Dr. and Mrs. Reiling, the former Dorothy Unger, visited Optimist clubs throughout the



United States, Canada and Mexico. He was made a Kentucky Colonel, an honorary Texas Ranger and honorary Chief Black Dog of the Cherokee Indian Tribe during that same period. Other awards have come from Civitan International and the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

He has served as Chief of Staff at Good Samaritan, and Senior Surgical Consultant at the St. Elizabeth and Dayton State hospitals. He was President of the President's Club and a director of the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce, besides serving on UD's Lay Board of Trustees since 1954.

He was chairman of the Service Club Committee of President Dwight D. Eisenhower's People-to-People Program and is currently President of the Health Foundation of the United Fund. He also is on the board of directors of the United Fund. Dr. Reiling has served as Chairman of the International Boys Work Committee and the New Club Building Committee of Optimist International.

The committee called Rabbi Ruslander "an outstanding leader in the shaping of the present generation of Dayton Jewry. A scholar with penetrating vision, Rabbi Ruslander has given considerable service to the community at large. He has been a board member of the N.A.A.C.P. as well as Chairman of the Urban League Board. His ecumenical activities are noteworthy. Recently he aided in the formation of the program of Judaic Studies at the University of Dayton."

Rabbi Ruslander was born in Stowe Township, Pennsylvania, in 1911 and was educated in the public schools of Pittsburgh. He received his bachelor of arts degree with honors from the University of Cincinnati and was ordained a Rabbi at the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati in 1935. He has received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Central State University in 1958 and the honorary degree of Doctor of Hebrew Letters from the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in 1960.

As a student at Hebrew Union College he was a case-work supervisor for the Central Bureau for Local Homeless of Hamilton County. His first pulpit was in Port Arthur, Texas, where he organized the congregation. He then was called to serve as a Director of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation of the University of Illinois.

During World War II he served as a Chaplain in the United States Navy. He still holds the rank of Captain in the U.S. Naval Reserve.

Rabbi Ruslander came to Dayton from South Shore Temple in Chicago in 1947. He has served on many boards of community organizations and was elected President of the Community Welfare Council and the Dayton Urban League. He also serves on the 12-member Advisory Committee of the Ohio Youth Commission.

Rabbi Ruslander is Chairman of the Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy of the National Jewish Welfare Board, and is a member of the Board's executive committee. He also is a board member of the National Foundation for Jewish Culture, a trustee of the Alumni Association of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, and an alumni overseer of that college.